

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: COMMERCE:GMWINES; ARA/LA/APU:FELDER;EB/BR:SIMMONS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

UNCLAS STATE 279977

C O R R E C T E D COPY (LINE 8 PARA 1 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: N'A

TAGS: BEXP, AR

SUBJECT: CGE TRADE MISSION TO THE U.S.

REF: BUENOS AIRES 8753, BUENOS AIRES 9018

1. WE RECOGNIZE THERE IS A ROLE TO PLAY FOR USG IN FACILITATING TRIP OF PROJECTED CGE TRADE MISSION. HOWEVER, IT MUST BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAM ARRANGEMENTS, LIAISON BETWEEN CGE AND US IMPORTERS, AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION MUST BE BORNE BY ARGENTINE OFFICIALS. TO DATE NEITHER ARGENTINE EMBASSY NOR ARGENTINE CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK HAS BEEN PROVIDED WITH ANY INFORMATION BY CGE WHICH WOULD PERMIT PROPER PREPARATION FOR TRADE MISSION. AS A RESULT NO ACTION HAS AS YET BEEN TAKEN BY ARGENTINE MISSION HERE. IN ADVANCE OF BASIC INFORMATION ON COMPOSITION OF GROUP, DESIRED PROGRAM, ETC. USG IS SIMARILY UNABLE TO INITIATE APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE.

WHEN REQUIRED INFORMATION IS AVAIALBLE STATE AND USDOC WILL ATTEMPT TO COOPERATE WITH AND RENDER APPROPRIATE UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSISTANCE TO ARGENTINE EMBASSY AND CONSULATE GENERAL IN

ARRANGING FOR TRADE MISSION PROGRAM. POST SHOULD KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT THE MISSION DOES NOT MEET CRITERIA FOR

FOREIGN BUYERS PROGRAM (SEE STATE A-2270). FURTHERMORE, THREE WEEKS REMAINING PRIOR TO PROJECTED ARRIVAL OF MISSION MAKE EVEN MINIMAL PREPARATIONS DIFFICULT.

2. FAS, AGRICULTURE, ADVISES SECTION 22 APPLIES MAINLY TO DAIRY PRODUCTS AND THAT THERE ARE NO NEW RESTRICTIONS APPLIED TO IMPORTS OF FRUITS, GARLIC, ONIONS, AND MONEY.

3. CONVERSATIONS WITH SEVERAL IMPORT ORGANIZATIONS INDICATE THEY NOT PREPARED TO SCREEN PRODUCT LISTS TO IDENTIFY SALES POSSIBILITIES IN U.S. WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN VISITING GROUPS OF THIS TYPE, OF WHICH THERE ARE MANY, THEIR PRACTICE CONTINUES TO BE THAT OF PUBLISHING THE GROUP'S ITINERARY IN RESPECTIVE NEWSLETTERS FOR APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP ACTION BY THEIR MEMBERS. NONE VOLUNTEERS TO DO MORE THAN THAT. KISSINGER

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